

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 07564 081443Z

15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 OMB-01 IO-14 DRC-01

AID-20 DPW-01 ACDA-19 /169 W
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O R 081243Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5594

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SAIGON 7564

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,VS

SUBJECT: "PRG" PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: SAIGON 6410

1. SUMMARY; IN THE WAKE OF THE GVN'S ANNOUNCEMENT YESTER-
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 07564 081443Z

DAY (JUNE 7) THAT IT WAS REINSTATING THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS' FULL PRIVILEGES, THE "PRG" DELEGATION TODAY HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE THAT IT WOULD ATTEND THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF THE TPJMC AND THE FPJMT NEXT WEEK. THOUGHT THERE WAS, AS USUAL, NO STATEMENT BY THE DRV AT THE BRIEFING, WE ASSUME THAT THEY WILL, AS IN THE PAST, ADOPT THE SAME POSITION. FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS TO RESUME AT LE CELLE SAINT CLOUD, THE "PRG" SPOKESMAN SAID, "THE GVN MUST RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE SIX POINT PROPOSAL OF MARCH 22."

2. WITH THE REINSTATEMENT OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS' CAME A RESUMPTION OF THE "PRG'S" SATURDAY PRESS CONFERENCE. DEPUTY CHIEF OF DELEGATION COL. VO DONG GIANG OPENED TODAY'S TWO HOUR SESSION WITH A LENGTHY STATEMENT, MOST OF WHICH WAS DEVOTED TO LONG STANDING PROPAGANDA POINTS.

3. HE DENOUNCED THE US FOR SABOTAGING THE PARIS AGREEMENT BY "ILLEGALLY" INTRODUCING ARMS INTO SOUTH VIETNAM. HE CHARGED THAT THE US WAS CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN ATTEMPTING TO "ESTABLISH A MUNITIONS FACTORY" TO SUPPORT THE THIEU REGIME. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THERE WERE "MORE THAN 25,000" AMERICAN MILITARY PERSONNEL IN SOUTH VIETNAM WHO "HAVE DIRECTLY DIRECTED" ALL "ACTS OF WAR, PACIFICATION AND POLICE ACTIVITY" IN THE COUNTRY.

4. GIANG WENT ON TO CHARGE THAT THE "NGUYEN VAN THIEU ADMINISTRATION" HAD "CONTINUALLY STEPPED UP ITS LAND GRABBING OPERATIONS, OFFENSIVE ACTIVITIES AND AIR AND ARTILLERY BOMBARDMENTS AGAINST THE PRG/RSVN. " GIANG CALLED IT SLANDER TO BLAME THE "PRG" FOR SUCH "MASSACRES " AS CAI LAY AND SONG PHU. HE CALLED FOR A "SERIOUS" ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF THE GVN IN THE NEGOTIATIONS RATHER THAN ITS PRESENT "OBDURATE ATTITUDE OF SABOTAGING" THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

5. AFTER AN EXTENSIVE EXPLANATION OF WHY THE "PRG" AND DRV HAD WALKED OUT OF NEGOTIATIONS IN THE TPJMC AND THE FPJMT AS WELL AS AT LA CELLE SAINT CLOUD (ALL DEALING WITH US AND GVN SABOTAGE), GIANG ANNOUNCED THAT THE "PRG" WOULD RETURN TO THE JUNE 11 TPJMC AND FPJMT MEETINGS.

6. THIS WAS NOT IN RESPONSE TO THE GVN'S GESTURE IN TERMS OF PRIVILEGES, HE STRESSED. THE GVN HAD "OBVIOUSLY" NOT RESPONDED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 SAIGON 07564 081443Z

"FULLY AND SERIOUSLY TO THE LEGITIMATE DEMANDS " OF THE "PRG'S" MAY 10 STATEMENT. IT CONTINUES, GIANG SAID, TO TREAT THE OBLIGATION TO GRANT PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES AS A MATTER IT MAY CARRY OUT OR NOT CARRY OUT AS IT PLEASES.

7. "HOWEVER," GIANG CONTINUED, "PROCEEDING FROM THE UNSWERVING STAND OF ITS GOVERNMENT WHICH IS TO ALWAYS RESPECT AND SERIOUSLY

IMPLEMENTST THE PARIS AGREEMENT, IN TOKEN OF ITS GOOD WILL AND IN ORDER TO MAKE FULL USE OF ALL POSSIBILITIES TO ACCELERATE OR TO MAKE THE OPERATION OF THE JOINT MILITARY COMMISSIONS TO PROGRESS, THE "PRG" DELEGATION HAS DECIDED THAT IT WILL COME TO ATTEND THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED CHIEF LEVEL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL TWO PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION THIS TUESDAY AND AFTER THAT WILL ATTEND THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED CHIEF LEVEL MEETING OF THE FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION ON JUNE 11, 1974. WHETHER THIS MEETING WILL MAKE PROGRESS OR NOT DEPENDS ON WHETHER THE SAIGON ADMINISTRATION SIDE'S ATTITUDE WILL BE SERIOUS OR NOT."

8. IN THE QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD, GIANG HELD OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE WALKOUTS. AFTER ATTENDING THESE MEETINGS, HE SAID, THE "PRG" WOULD STUDY THE MATTER IN LIGHT OF THE MAY 10 STATEMENT.

9. AS FOR A RETURN TO THE NEGOTIATIONS AT LA CELLE SAINT CLOUD, GIANG SAID: "CONCRETELY SPEAKING, IT (THE GVN) MUST RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE SIX POINT PROPOSAL OF MARCH 22, 1974 OF THE PRG/RSVN" IN THE QUESTION PERIOD HE AGAIN REAFFIRMED THE POSITION THAT THE "PRG" WILL NOT RETURN UNTIL THE GVN INDICATES IT IS WILLING TO RESPOND TO THE SIX POINT PROPOSAL.

10. IN RESPONSE TO PRESS INQUIRIES ABOUT US REACTION TO THE "PRG" CONFERENCE THE MISSION ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT" "AS WE HAVE SAID IN OUR STATEMENTS ON MAY 30 AND JUNE 4 ON THIS MATTER, WE HOPED THAT THE MEETINGS OF THE FPJMT AND THE TPJMC WOULD QUICKLY RESUME. WE ARE HAPPY THAT THEY NOW WILL. WE ARE GLAD THAT THE VERY FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM HAS BROUGHT ABOUT THIS RESULT. AS WE HAVE SAID BEFORE, WE HOPE THAT THE OTHER SIDE WILL RETURN TO THE MEETINGS WITH A CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE SO THAT THE WORK OF BOTH BODIES CAN GO FORWARD TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THE PARIS AGREEMENT."

MARTIN

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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 SAIGON 07564 081443Z

UNCLASSIFIED

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